

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re U.S. Patent Application of** )  
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**HIGAKI et al.** )  
 )  
**Application Number: To be Assigned** )  
 )  
**Filed: Concurrently Herewith** )  
 )  
**For: STORAGE SYSTEM AND STORAGE CONTROL** )  
**DEVICE** )  
 )  
**Attorney Docket No. HITA.0508** )

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified, is submitted herewith.

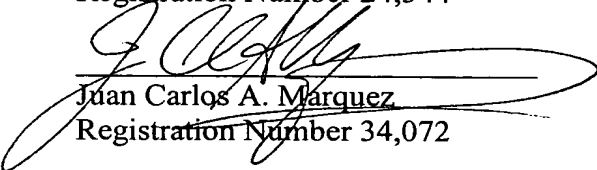
This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted with the initial filing of the application. Accordingly, no fee is due or payable at this time.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 08-1480.

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO 1449  U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office  Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant	ATTY. DOCKET NUMBER <b>HITA-0508</b>	SERIAL NUMBER <b>To be assigned</b>
	APPLICANT <b>HIGAKI et al.</b>	
	FILING DATE <b>Concurrently herewith</b>	GROUP

**U.S. Patent Documents**

Examiner Initial		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
		6,356,977 B2	3/12/2002	Ofek et al.			12/12/2000
		6,240,486 B1	5/29/2001	Ofek et al.			7/29/99
		6,108,748	8/22/2000	Ofek et al.			2/28/97
		5,896,548	4/20/99	Ofek			2/28/97
		5,680,640	10/21/97	Ofek et al.			9/1/95
		6,598,134 B2	7/22/2003	Ofek et al.			8/30/2001
		2001/0001870 A1	5/24/2001	Ofek et al.			12/12/2000
		2002/0004890 A1	1/10/2002	Ofek et al.			8/30/2001

**Foreign Patent Documents**

Examiner Initial		DOCUMENT NUMBER	FILING DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		10-508967*	8/29/96	Japan				X
		2001-195201	1/12/2000	Japan			Abstract	X
		WO 97/09676	8/29/96	PCT			X	

**Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<i>EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant</i>	

\*This corresponds to WO 97/09676 attached.

PTO1449